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The Foresight of Fifty Years Ago.

One remark made by Admiral JOUETT, of the retired list, in a lately reported conversation, is suggestive. The subject was the recent stirring events in the Caribbean Sea; and, recalling the treaty of 1848 with New Granada, by which the United States guaranteed the neutrality of the Isthmus, and the rights of New Granada there, the Admiral said he hardly knew "how such a treaty came to be made. At that time California was to us an unexplored country, and there was no reason except from a prophetic point of view, the United States was made responsible for the neutrality of the Isthmus and for the preservation of Colombia from invasion."

The historic facts are, indeed, that the war with Mexico, which gave us California, had still to be fought; that the treaty of peace was not made until February, 1848, during which month also gold was first found in the valley of the Sacramento; finally, that the railroad across the Isthmus was not completed until 1855. Yet the importance of that narrow neck of land connecting the two American continents had been obvious for generations, and American statesmen of fifty years ago were both present and patriotic enough to secure the control of the Isthmus by that guarantee of New Granada's "rights of sovereignty and property" there which now holds good for Colombia.

Admiral JOUETT, it will be remembered, was the officer sent to the Isthmus by Secretary WHITNEY ten years ago, in charge of the naval forces then landed to protect American rights and property, and to keep open and safe the transit between Panama and Colon. Some furious insurgents had set fire to Colon, and they also had Panama. The treaty of 1848 enabled us to occupy both places, to patrol the railway, and to save the Isthmus not only to commerce but to the reorganized Government of Colombia. It appears from a report just made by Commander IDE of the Alert, now at Panama, that Colon was also this year in danger of being burned by the revolutionists, who, however, were awed by marines landed from the Atlanta. Be this as it may, the value of the right acquired by the United States in 1848 to interfere on the Isthmus, thus shutting out the intervention of European countries, has been fully tested by experience.

If only we could have some of the foresighted ability and the Americanism which framed that treaty to guide our international relations of to-day!

The Cable to Hawaii.

A movement is said to be in progress on the Pacific coast for the laying of a telegraphic wire to Hawaii and thence to Japan. The project is represented to be independent of reliance upon what Congress may do in the matter; yet no doubt it takes account of the measure passed by the Senate at the last session for the laying of such a cable by the Government, through a contract with individuals or a company. Any private company would naturally plan the laying of a wire entirely across the ocean; but it would be glad also to take advantage of a guarantee or subsidy for the line as far as Hawaii, if that should be substituted for the proposed Government enterprise.

Senator MORGAN, in advocating the Senate measure as a substitute for the proposal to give our consent to the lease of Nihoa, or Necker, or French Frigate Shoal Island, as a landing station for a British cable, called attention to the fact that eight years before, when Mr. BAYARD was Secretary of State, Mr. CLEVELAND's annual message, in speaking of the Hawaiian Islands, had declared that "the importance of telegraphic communication between those islands and the United States should not be overlooked." Mr. MORGAN added: "Sir, I have not overlooked it; I have not forgotten it; I have not abandoned that ground." Those, in fact, were days when Mr. BAYARD was alive to the importance of taking every needful step, as the development of events might warrant, for preventing encroachments upon American interests and footholds in the Pacific, whether in Hawaii or in Samoa.

In those days, too, what concerned Mr. BAYARD's attention was that his countrymen were not communication between Honolulu and Vancouver, but "between those islands and the United States." And if the importance of that communication was too great to be overlooked then, what shall be said of it now, when Hawaii may soon be brought into the Union?

Mr. BAYARD's influence continued to be thrown in this same direction of "paramount influence" in Hawaii, and of the employment of all proper means to secure it. One such appliance is telegraphic communication, and it is desirable, therefore, that the control of such communication should be in American rather than in foreign hands. In 1888, two years after his first message, Mr. CLEVELAND reverted to the subject in these words:

"In the vast field of Oriental commerce now unfolded from our Pacific borders no feature presents stronger recommendations for Congressional action than the establishment of communication by submarine telegraph with Honolulu."

The geographical position of the Hawaiian group in relation to our Pacific States creates a natural interdependency and mutual interest which our present treaties were intended to foster, and which make close communication a logical and commercial necessity."

From whatever source the idea was adopted, this language, like Mr. CLEVELAND's own, and it is to be observed that he uses the term "interdependency" in speaking of the geographical situation of the Hawaiian group in relation to our country. But it is suggestive of what has since occurred that when Mr. CLEVELAND's last communication to Congress on the subject was made it transmitted a project for giving consent to a British cable, with not a word of suggestion that it would be better to substitute one of our own.

Congress, however, has never abandoned the original plan. Four years ago the Senate passed a bill giving to a company therein named a subsidy large enough to cover, first and last, the entire estimated expense of laying a cable to Hawaii. The

House did not concur, but during the same session sent to the Senate a bill, which became a law, appropriating money for a survey by United States vessels of a route for such a cable. That survey was, in fact, made. At the last session the proposed authorization of the cable took the form, as has been said, of empowering the President to contract for laying it, "said cable to be owned and operated by the United States Government." But the item was inserted in an annual appropriation bill, adjournment was near, and the House rejected it. There is no ground for assuming that at the long session next winter, a proper bill, seasonably introduced and explained, could not be carried in both Houses.

Meanwhile Congress has withheld its consent from the proposed exemption of one of the three islands spoken of from the operation of Article IV. of our reciprocity treaty with Hawaii. That at least leaves the matter as before. What is this treaty stipulation? It reads as follows:

"It is agreed on the part of the Hawaiian Majesty that, so long as this treaty shall remain in force, he will not lease or otherwise dispose of or create any lien upon any port, harbor, or territory in his dominions, or grant any special privileges or rights of use therein to any other power, State, or Government."

The full importance of the restriction thus placed in that document years ago, even before our political relations with Hawaii had assumed their present importance, may best be understood, perhaps, by referring to a letter signed by SANDFORD FLEMING and W. HEPPWORTH MERCER. These gentlemen were representatives of Great Britain and her colonies for the purpose of arranging the cable project. In a letter sent by them to Mr. HAVEN, the Hawaiian Minister of Foreign Affairs, dated Hawaiian Hotel, Honolulu, Oct. 17, 1894, occurs this passage:

"We propose to inform the British Government of your inquiry whether they would accept the sovereignty of Necker Island, or some other uninhabited island, on condition that no subsidy is required from you. As we explained, we are not at liberty to entertain that question ourselves, as we were definitely instructed not to ask for the sovereignty of any island, but only for a lease simply for the purpose of the cable."

In other words, Hawaii, naturally eager for telegraphic communication with the mainland, and ill-treated by Mr. CLEVELAND's Administration, appears from this letter actually to have made an inquiry as to whether, if she should part with her sovereignty over one of her islands, transferring the same to Great Britain, she should secure a cable without paying them of \$35,000 yearly for fifteen years, which the proposals of Messrs. FLEMING and MERCER had required of her as a subsidy.

It will be seen, therefore, that in more than one way the question of who shall construct and control the cable to Hawaii becomes important to our Government. Whether it was wise for Hawaii to suggest giving up the sovereignty of Nihoa or Bird Island, or of some other uninhabited spot on the outskirts of her domains, to Great Britain, rather than pay the heavy aggregate of \$35,000 per year for her share of the cable subsidy, is another matter. Without going into that, it is enough to point out that no dog-in-the-manger policy will suffice for us in regard to Hawaii, either as to a cable or as to other matters affecting her prosperity.

Even the agreement drawn up by Messrs. FLEMING and MERCER, providing for a lease of an island and not for sovereignty over it, prescribes that the lease shall "inure and continue until the cable and the connecting line to Honolulu are finally and permanently abandoned." That gives a long prospect of British occupation, in view of the possibility of the annexation of Hawaii to the Union. And if, as has been suggested, the United States should simply consent to an exemption of the island fixed upon from the provisions of the reciprocity treaty, what guarantee would there be against subsequent arrangements between Great Britain and Hawaii of the character indicated in the inquiry about "sovereignty" already spoken of?

We think it probable, therefore, that the question of a cable to Hawaii will come up before Congress at the next session, and that reflection meanwhile upon what it really involves may lead to definite action, since a decision upon it can hardly be much longer postponed.

The Armistice Between Japan and China.

The assent of the Japanese Government to the request of China's plenipotentiaries for an armistice is attributed to the Mikado's wish to testify regret for the attempt to assassinate LI HUNG CHANG. But nobody questioned the sincerity of the regret for this unfortunate occurrence, which already had been officially expressed, and it is improbable that Japan would have taken so grave a step as that of arresting all military operations at this favorable juncture, unless there were good reasons for believing that her terms of peace would be accepted by the Chinese commissioners.

We shall soon know what those terms are, and whether England or any other of the Western powers considers the conditions imposed on China so oppressive as to call for interposition. It will be remembered that England lifted not a finger to protest against the dismemberment of France. In 1871, coupled with this was the enormous indemnity of a thousand million dollars. Some excuse, however, may be made for the apparent indifference of Englishmen to the fate of a country which had been their ally in the Crimean war; for, whatever sympathy for France may have been felt in London or Vienna, it was prevented from taking practical shape by the attitude of the Czar, ALEXANDER II., who distinctly forbade interference. A similar position may now be taken by NICHOLAS II. on behalf of Japan, if it be true that the Tokio Government has offered to advise its protégé, the nominal ruler of the Hermit Kingdom, to cede to Russia a seaport on the northeastern coast of the Korean peninsula, together with a right of approach by land from Russian Manchuria. The harbor, which has been long coveted for the development of Russia's naval power in the North Pacific, is Port Arthur. It is situated in 39° 30' north latitude, at the western angle of the Korean Bay; it has an area of some thirty-six square miles, is well protected, and furnishes excellent anchorage ground. Either Port Lazaref or some equally good harbor, accessible during the winter season, Russia is determined to have at the expense of either Corea or China, and it will be an act of wisdom on Japan's part to conciliate her most powerful neighbor by furthering its wishes in this particular.

With the moral support of Russia once secured, Japan would doubtless be eventually able to extort from China a cession of the extramural province of Shing-King or Liau-Tung, a great part of which has been traversed by the Japanese soldiers. But so long as Pekin remained uncaptured, the Chinese Government would be loath to surrender that province, because it contains

not only the great naval fortress of Port Arthur, but also Mukden, the historical capital of the Manchus, and two and a half centuries ago made them masters of the Celestial Empire. It is scarcely credible that at this stage of the war LI HUNG CHANG would be authorized to cede Shing-King in perpetuity, though no reasonable objection could be made to the temporary occupation of Port Arthur, and of Wei-Hai-Wei on the opposite promontory in China proper, pending the payment of the stipulated indemnity. What will be the amount of this indemnity is not yet known, but it is expected to cover not only the sums actually expended by the Mikado in the prosecution of the contest, but also damages for the destroyed lives and property of his subjects. That Formosa and the adjacent Pescadore Islands will pass under Japanese sovereignty may be taken for granted, whatever doubt may hang over the remaining terms of peace.

That Japan may secure the full fruits of victory is the hope of her American well-wishers, who from the outset of the war have watched with lively interest her remarkable naval and military achievements.

The Deaconesses of the Episcopal Church.

In 1889 the General Convention of the Episcopal Church adopted a canon providing for the appointment of deaconesses by any Bishop. They must be unmarried women of at least twenty-five years of age, "of devout character and proved fitness," and must have received a special preparatory training, both technical and religious, extending through a period of two years. Their function is to assist the minister in the care of the poor and sick, the religious training of the young and others, and the work of moral reformation. They may resign their office at any time, and may be suspended or removed by the Bishop for cause, after a hearing. They are set apart for the function by an appropriate religious service, but no special garb is prescribed for them.

The deaconesses, accordingly, are distinct from the members of the sisterhoods, or communities, which now exist in the Episcopal Church. They are not separated from the world and distinguished by the peculiarity of their dress, after the manner of the Roman Catholic orders, but continue to live in the world, and, to use the words of the Rev. Dr. HUNTINGTON of Grace Church, are free to mingle in society easily and naturally. Moreover, a deaconess, who is the assistant of the rector of the parish, and is assigned by him to her duties as such, is paid a stipend sufficient for her support; and as she is under no perpetual vows, she renders free-will service merely.

This liberty does not make the office of deaconess any more attractive to pious Episcopal women desirous of devoting themselves to the service of the Church. Most of those who think they have a vocation in this direction prefer to enter upon a distinctly religious life under the restrictions of the austere discipline of sisterhoods associated in communities, and marked by a peculiar symbolic garb. In their religious exaltation they are anxious to be separated from the world in their manner of life, their dress, and their thoughts. Probably even perpetual vows would not be distasteful to them, at least when they start out in their new life, and practically there are members of Episcopal sisterhoods who have made such vows in their hearts, though they may not be required for admission to the orders.

The members of the brotherhood or order of the Holy Cross take them and regard them as a religious obligation, the special purpose of the foundation of their community being "the revival of monastic orders in our Church." Dr. HUNTINGTON, in a sermon preached last year, on the occasion of the setting apart of deaconesses by Bishop PORTER, discouraged this tendency toward a monastic or conventual life, with its perpetual vows and severe discipline, though he recognized the impulse to it in human nature, and suggested that "a larger amount of blessing will come to society from sisterhoods which have a door of egress well as a door of ingress." That is, he set upon one occasion, when a bill in the interest of women was under debate, Mrs. CARRIE CLYDE HOLLY, the member from Pueblo, delivered a speech superior to that of any of the men who took part in the debate. It gives us pleasure to say that, considering the freshness of the women in legislation, they performed satisfactorily enough their labors in the lower House of the Legislature of Colorado.

It gives us pleasure also to say that, at nearly all times, the women members were treated most courteously by the men members. At the opening of the session the women had the privilege of choosing their desks before the men were allowed to draw lots for their places; and repeatedly they gained the right to the floor when men were desirous of securing it. For one of the women, who is of very low stature, and had to stand on tiptoe when addressing the House, in case she desired to be seen, a small platform was built by means of which she was raised to a level with her fellow members. The members were all attention in the earlier part of the session, as soon as any one of the women rose to speak, and, in truth, the women enjoyed a good many privileges which were not granted to the other representatives. The first occasion on which there was anything like disrespect shown by any man toward any of the women was upon the day of the election of a United States Senator, when a rule man member thought fit to say that women would be in danger of suffering from retaliation if they went too far in assailing the character of candidates for the Senate. On a number of other occasions there was a clash between the woman members and some of the ill-mannered men members. Yet, after all, it was but rarely that the men members forgot that, though they were Coloradans, they were at the same time Americans. It was after an episode in the Legislature that the Denver correspondent of THE SUN spoke in a discouraging manner. "It is evident to the most casual observer here," he said, "that, since women have become men's legislative equals, all romantic illusions concerning her have been dispelled, and she is regarded as indifferently as if she were but a man." It is most regrettable that our correspondent felt himself impelled to make this remark. Mankind cannot afford to lose the lovely romance of womanhood, even for the sake of politics.

The first service rendered by the women members in the Colorado Legislature, after the election of a Speaker, in which they took part, was truly interesting. To them was assigned the duty of escorting Speaker MURPHY to the chair and introducing him to the House. They performed this duty excellently, and the speech of presentation by Mrs. KLOCK was at once neat and appropriate. Thereafter they shared in all the business that was brought up. They introduced bills; they joined in the debates, and they voted almost uniformly with their

wearing a peculiar habit and living a life more purely conventual; but the young women who pass through this school are qualified to render valuable service in the many favorite parish activities which now occupy so much of the energy of Episcopal churches in the large towns. They become trained nurses, and probably their clerical instructors take care that they shall not develop into disputatious theologians whom it would be uncomfortable for the rectors of the parishes to which they are assigned, to encounter and subdue. The only vow a deaconess is required to take is an affirmative answer to this question of the form for setting her apart: "Will you endeavor, so long as you shall hold this office, faithfully to fulfill the duties of the same without feckleness or waywardness?"

Three Women.

During the past three months we have kept an eye upon three particular women out West, the three who are members of the Legislature of the State of Colorado: Mrs. FRANCES KLOCK, Mrs. CLARA CRESSINGHAM, and Mrs. CARRIE CLYDE HOLLY. Never until this year have women rendered service as members of a State Legislature; and it has been interesting to watch the career of these notable three, sitting as lawmakers in the Denver State House during the session.

All of the three are women of pleasing appearance and ripe age. All of them are wives; all of them, we believe, are happily married; and it is said that the husbands of all of them are proud of the eminence which their wives have won. Mrs. HOLLY is a native of New York, Mr. CRESSINGHAM was born in Brooklyn, and Mrs. KLOCK's birthplace was somewhere in Massachusetts. We learn from a Denver contemporary that all of them are mothers. All of them are Republicans of very strong political sympathies.

They were elected in last November, after the hottest political campaign ever known in Colorado, in an election which was an extraordinary triumph of Republicanism over Populism. They stumped the counties in which they were candidates; they delivered electioneering speeches that made a deep impression; they overcame all their Populist and Democratic adversaries; and women voters as well as men voters marched in order to the polls and cast their ballots for them. As many as 70,000 of the women of Colorado voted at the November election, and it was largely through their influence that the political revolution in the State was accomplished. The women had campaign clubs in every county; there were parades of women voters, and the liveliest rivalry between the contending parties to secure their votes. The three women lawmakers did not slip into the Colorado Legislature; they fought their way into it. Two months after election they took their places with the other representatives of the fifty-six counties of the Centennial State.

Before referring to their labors during the session, it is proper to say that their demeanor throughout has been marked by the utmost propriety. They do not belong to the cranky or the overemotional kind of human beings; they are level-headed, self-possessed, and not too self-assertive; two of them, including the eldest of them, are possessed of a pretty strong will; and all three of them are well versed in the business of politics, possessing, likewise, all necessary knowledge of legislative law. Not one of them is half as skillful in political manipulation as the remarkable woman who, as THE SUN correspondent at Denver recently said, is the "political boss" to whom they are faithful; but all of them know enough about business to carry it on advantageously. It has not appeared from the proceedings of the Legislature that any one of the three is gifted with the highest qualities of statesmanship; but that can be said of the men members as well. It has not been made manifest during the session that any one of them is an orator of high rank; but, indeed, we have few enough thunder and lightning man orators among us. We have not had the luck to read a passage of the best kind of eloquence in the reports of the speeches of the three women into it. Two months after election they took their places with the other representatives of the fifty-six counties of the Centennial State.

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This is a good year to depart from the principle of fair imagination that has governed the naming of all boats previously built to defend the America's Cup, and if there is any special reason for giving to this champion a particular name, to christen her with the name so indicated. All previous defenders have had admirable names. Puritan, Priscilla, and Mayflower were perfect; Atlantic and Volunteer not quite so good; Pilgrim and Jubilee, excellent; Columbia, a worthy companion; Vigilant, capital. But let us for once drop Vigilant and Defender and Aphrodites and Flyaways, and all such favored accidents of perplexed taste, and take this time a name which justifies itself, which is proud in its history, beautiful and dignified in its form and sound, and to which circumstances point as one of peculiar happiness for the occasion. Hope is the name, long honored in American seafaring, and the motto of the cup defender's own native home, the small but many-shored State of Rhode Island. Let the coming yacht be named Hope by all means.

There was universal surprise last Thursday when the "military editor" of the Evening Post, in a complaint in court that another man had given him a black eye. Everybody had supposed that the military editor of that belittled paper was LARRY GODKIN; but this was not the name that the complainant gave when he appeared in Jefferson Market Court. He testified that his business was that of military editor, and his name was not Larry Godkin, so long as it was not LARRY GODKIN. Did the complainant, who offered his black eye in evidence, speak the truth in court as to his name, or did he render himself liable to arrest and prosecution by giving a name other than his own? The case ought to be further investigated, even if the military editor was not drawn the day after it was made. It would require a whole mountain of oaths and a cart load of evidence to make the readers of the Evening Post believe that its military editor, the man with a black eye, does not bear the name of LARRY GODKIN.

The withholding of the pay of the election inspectors for last year's service, on technical grounds, is a scandal. The blunder of making it is chargeable to the Good Government Club leeches, who did what they could at that election to prevent an honest vote and to embarrass a fair count by their officious intermeddling. A number of the leeches who need the money and who honestly expect it, find their due withheld on frivolous pretenses.

In the societies of woman debaters, subjects not less solid than those provided for the men college debaters are taken up. In the debate between Harvard and Princeton on Wednesday last the question was "Should the Be a Property Qualification for the Franchise?" In the great prize debate of last Friday afternoon between the young women members of the Phi-Kappa and the Alpha Beta Gamma Literary Societies of the Normal College of the State of New York, the question was: "Was Edward, the son of the Emperor of Japan, justified in declaring the Emperor of China?" Again, in another debate held the same day by the women members of the League for Political Education, this huge question was tackled: "Is Municipal Ownership of Gas Works and Street Railroads Desirable?"

The Harvard boys who took the side against a property qualification, beat the Princeton boys, who took the other side. The Alpha Beta Gamma girls, who stood up for the Japs, got the

party as consistent Republicans. It soon became evident that they entertained positive opinions upon questions with which women are not ordinarily familiar, and one of them at least, in dealing with measures of an unpartisan kind, seemed sometimes to have a disposition toward independent thought. They were attentive to the proceedings and alert in their ways. They got along well with each other. Their influence was often sought for by the men members. "The men," said Representative CRESSINGHAM, "soon found out that we women would not enter into deals, or connive with them in playing caucus tricks." This honest claim was contradicted, at one time, by the direct ex-Governor WAITE, who said that more than one of the Colorado women would sell out for a package of chewing gum. But, while reading this accusation, it must be remembered that WAITE was defeated last November, as a candidate for reelection as Governor, by the woman voters of Colorado.

We do not think the less of the woman members because they sometimes opposed bills of a very pretentious kind. When the author of an anti-liquor bill said its passage "would elevate humanity and raise the moral standard of the community," both Mrs. KLOCK and Mrs. CRESSINGHAM voted against it. Mrs. HOLLY introduced a bill, which was supported by the other two women representatives, for the protection of the young women of Colorado. She delivered a long speech in favor of it. When a man member made a sneering remark about it, the three women hissed at him. There was great excitement in the House. The further consideration of the bill had to be postponed; but the women representatives were not cast into despair on that account, and the bill was again brought up. The speeches of some of the men members upon it were unworthy of Coloradans.

Another thing about the three women representatives may be deserving of notice. They were determined to get their share of the spoils of office by securing for themselves their woman friends. They did not rest satisfied with the election of Mrs. A. J. PRATT to the office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction, or with that of a woman to the office of Reading Clerk of the Senate, or with the success of Mrs. CRESSINGHAM, the Secretary of the Republican caucus, in securing three-fourths of the legislative clerkships for women. They were constantly on the lookout for appointments for their woman constituents. It was surprising to some of the feeble-minded men members how often they got what they wanted. But we say that even these things should not destroy the romance of womanhood.

From first to last the woman members of the Colorado Legislature made a very respectable record, though not a particularly brilliant one. They were quite as smart as the men members.

It is an interesting experiment that has been made in Colorado for the first time in American history. Judging by the bad fortune of woman suffrage elsewhere in recent times, the experiment is not likely to be made in any other State for a good while. It has not reflected any singular honor upon woman politicians as lawmakers.

Hope.

"Name her THIRLY," writes another correspondent ambitious to name the new yacht. "She was fast, and showed her heels to the Englishmen." Mr. HARD A. LEE, as another representative of the party of expressiveness and "ingenuity," thinks that all the desired sentiments will be best denoted by the title "We're Here." Mr. LEE and the THIRLY inventor are types of a very large party, with whose fancy that of THE SUN differs radically.

This is a good year to depart from the principle of fair imagination that has governed the naming of all boats previously built to defend the America's Cup, and if there is any special reason for giving to this champion a particular name, to christen her with the name so indicated. All previous defenders have had admirable names. Puritan, Priscilla, and Mayflower were perfect; Atlantic and Volunteer not quite so good; Pilgrim and Jubilee, excellent; Columbia, a worthy companion; Vigilant, capital. But let us for once drop Vigilant and Defender and Aphrodites and Flyaways, and all such favored accidents of perplexed taste, and take this time a name which justifies itself, which is proud in its history, beautiful and dignified in its form and sound, and to which circumstances point as one of peculiar happiness for the occasion. Hope is the name, long honored in American seafaring, and the motto of the cup defender's own native home, the small but many-shored State of Rhode Island. Let the coming yacht be named Hope by all means.

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prize of \$10 in gold, which was lost by the Philomathean girls, who stood up for JOHN. As for the gas question, it was left unsettled by the League. The women debaters of the other five societies were not so good, or so well equipped, as the women of the Phi-Kappa, and the preternatural selfishness of man. Upon this last thing, some of them spoke with justifiable severity, wholly forgetting the gas.

We wish these debating young men and young women would take up some questions that have not been hammered out much or so often as those they took up last week. One of the most entertaining subjects of thought before the world at this time is the utility of argon, about which we have given abundant information in THE SUN.

We are not surprised at the stir that has been created in the city by the direct statement that on the afternoon of Friday last Mr. CLEVELAND took a walk, a walk which covered a distance of six blocks. He went out at the quietest hour of the day, when all the office-holders ought to be on duty, but the news of the novelty spread rapidly, and people rushed to the scene to get a look. The walk was frequently a stroll in Berlin; the figure of President FAIRIE is a familiar one on the boulevards of Paris, and even Queen VICTORIA has several times taken a short walk behind a muffler in London. But our ruler is a stranger in Pennsylvania avenue and in the cross streets, though it would be sometimes trouble for him to get a look at the crowd that keeps off. It would help him along to take a brisk walk around town every day, and to get acquainted with some of the residents of Washington who are not in office. Many an Oriental baba has picked up lots of knowledge by going around the streets in mufti, the streets of Baghdad especially.

Grabbers all! GOLF, DAMSEES, and HOMER. The grab of the first named was for \$5,000 a year additional salary and for all the patronage of the court in which he is the junior Judge. The grab of the second was for taking the auctioneer privilege away from accredited bidders, and giving it to the lowest bidder at the public expense, and for all the political places in sight. The grab of the third, the least of all, was for his Coroner's salary while being paid as an examining surgeon for penitentiaries. Why did the people of New York choose three grabbers in November?

If religious enthusiasts are to be excluded from office under Mayor STROGO, and if all the men who ever were bartenders are to be excluded from service upon the police force by Commissioner ANDREWS, we fear there will be trouble in getting the most active kind of citizens to fill the places vacated by Democrats. If the coadjutors and bartenders are to be prevented from holding office, they ought to be prevented from voting; for it seems to us that the principle of equal rights is violated when they are deprived of any of the opportunities of citizenship. They pay taxes like other people. Some of them are as good and competent as other people. No discrimination against them on account of their religion or calling, so long as he is honest, capable, and faithful to the Constitution.

The co-laborer in the cause of political reform is worthy of his Police Commissioner-ship, if he can get it.

The fitness of things is beautifully illustrated in the proposition to place in Boston a memorial to FRANCIS PARKMAN, for which purpose subscriptions may be sent to the treasurer of the committee, Mr. HENRY L. HIGGINSON, 44 State street, that city. This memorial to PARKMAN, a man who by his place in the small band of American historians might properly be remembered by any citizen of the United States, is a tribute to American letters, is to be set up in Boston, his native city, and in his own garden even, which is soon to become a part of the Boston park. Boston is the spot for a statue to PARKMAN, although Americans everywhere can help in putting it there.

The act of Dean MCULTY of Paterson, requiring Prof. WILLIAM DAVIS to give up playing in St. John's Church or resign his place as organist in the Barnert Memorial Temple, a synagogue, seems somewhat harsh. Moreover, it is doubtful whether there is any real question of Catholic discipline in the matter. The difference between playing an organ in a Jewish synagogue and singing in a theatre may be considerable; but it is on record that the late Cardinal CULLEN, of anti-Fenian fame, on more than one occasion in Dublin engaged prominent members of certain Italian opera companies to sing at the end of his religious services, and a high fee was charged for admission to the church.

Now, if that was admissible in the Cathedral of Dublin, why should not Prof. WILLIAM DAVIS be allowed to play the organ in the synagogue, and also to play it in the Catholic Church? It is a sad case, and a sad case of a man engaged professionally in each establishment. However, we do not propose to go into the merits of the case. Dean MCULTY may be right, or he may be wrong; but on the face of it just now, it does seem as if he were a little overzealous.

A while ago, the man waiters in several restaurants went on strike because they were required to shave off their beards; and now several of the woman waiters in a restaurant in New York City have gone on strike because they must comb their bangs back from their brows. The hair on the face of a man or the head of a woman is a possession which must be defended at every risk. Even a Chinaman is outraged when any one interferes with his queue.

The Sixty-ninth Battalion and Lieut. Col.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—It is with feelings of much pleasure and hopefulness that I read in this morning's SUN of the appointment of Lieut. Col. Smith to command the Sixty-ninth Battalion; pleasure that so good a soldier and man has been selected, and hopefulness that it may be the end of the troubles in the Sixty-ninth, and that the old organization may be restored to the position it should and is right ought to occupy.

During the late strike in Brooklyn Col. Smith, as the readers of THE SUN are aware, probably was in command of the Sixty-ninth, and it was my pleasant duty to serve under him, and a more courteous and capable officer I never had the hard to find. And I am sure he endeavored himself to the men on that occasion, and I trust that the officers of the Sixty-ninth will give him a hearty welcome.

There is no reason why a firm and capable officer should make the regimental staff what it once was, an organization that an Irishman, and an American, too, might be proud of. The staff of the Sixty-ninth, it is now said, is a body of men who are not only brave and courageous, but who are also brave and courageous. The Irish soldiers have made an almost every day of it, and that is what is needed for the qualities that make a commander, too, for has not the Irish race given to the world some of its greatest leaders? So, let us hope that the advent of Col. Smith into the battalion will be the beginning of a new era of prosperity, and that he will soon have it what New Yorkers love to call it, the "Gallant Staff."

Yours truly, J. J. VAN ALLEN, Lieut. Col., 69th Battalion, New York, March 29.

From the San Francisco Chronicle. From a letter by Mrs. Mary Westfall, who died at her daughter's ranch near North Oakland last night at the age of 82, and some remarkable experiences in her long life, she was the widow of James Westfall, who was the junior partner of William H. Seward at Auburn, N. Y., in the early fifties, she knew President Cleveland's parents intimately, when the President's father was a Federalist, and she resided in the village of Clinton, near Utica, and she recollected well the many occasions when she herself visited President Cleveland at his home in the neighborhood where Mrs. Westfall lived about 1845.

A Religious Hint.